

# 2015 Drinking Water Quality Report

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

Phone Number: 972-230-5724

## Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

This report is a summary of the quality of the water provided to our customers. The analysis was made using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests, and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you to become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.



# All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and in some cases, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants (such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife), inorganic contaminants (such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming), pesticides and herbicides (which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses), organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals (which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems), and radioactive contaminants (which can be naturallyoccurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities). Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact Allan McDonald at 972-230-5725.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at: 1-800-426-4791

## Where Does Our Drinking Water Come From?

DeSoto's drinking water is purchased from the City of Dallas, which obtains its water from the following seven sources: Lake Ray Roberts, Lake Lewisville, Lake Grapevine, Lake Ray Hubbard, Lake Tawakoni, Lake Fork, and the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. Regular monthly tests are conducted on Dallas' water to ensure that it is clean and meets all water quality requirements.



# **Information About Secondary Constituents**

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

# **Information About Source Water Assessments**

The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Assessment for all drinking water systems that own their sources. This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The system from which we purchase our water received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact Allan McDonald at 972-230-5725.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

<u>AVG</u>—Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

<u>MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)</u> - The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

<u>MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)</u> - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) - The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

<u>MFL</u> — Millions fiber per liter (a measure of asbestos)

Not applicable

NTU — Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**<u>pCi/L</u>** — Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**ppb** — Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter—or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

**ppm** — Parts per million, or milligrams per liter—or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

**ppt** — Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq** — Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

#### UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in the following table.

	YEAR OF						Measure	
CONTAMINANT	RANGE	AVG	MIN	MAX	MCL	MCLG	Unit	Source of Contaminants
Chloroform	2015	7.31	5.25	11.2	N/A	70	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloro-	2015	4.84	3.49	6.80	N/A	0	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloro-	2015	1.86	1.31	2.26	N/A	60	Ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

#### LEAD AND COPPER

If present, elevated levels of lead and copper can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. DeSoto is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumber components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead">http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead</a>.

# Water Quality Data Report 2015

This is a summany of water quality data for Dallas Water Utilities. The list includes parameters which DWU currently tests for, in accordance with Federal and State Water Quality Regulations. The frequency of testing on the parameters and are in compliance with established standards. Dallas Water Utilities is a "Superior" rated water system by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. All three water treatment plants are optimized and certified by meeting the Texas Optimization Program and Partnership for Safe Drinking Water criteria. Dallas water exceeds Federal and State water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

REGULATED			LEVEL					
DALLAS	Collection Date	Average	Minimum	Maximum	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride	2015	0.529	0.521	0.536	4	4	mdd	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate (as N)	2015	0.771	0.304	1.01	10	10	Ppm	Run-off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	2015	77.2	23.0	155.0	200	200	Ppb	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Bromate	2015	<0.3	<0.03	<0.3	10	0	qdd	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Antimony	2015	0.21	<0.200	0.32	9	9	Ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Arsenic	2015	0.32	<0.700	0.95	10	0	qdd	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2015	0.023	0.013	0.041	2	2	Ppm	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (Total)	2015	0.82	0.78	0.86	100	100		Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2015	1.57	<1.00	2.8	50	50		Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium (226 & 228)	2011	1.0	1.0	1.0	5	0	pCi/L****	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross beta particle activity	2011	5.3	4	7.2	50	0	pCi/L****	Decay of natural or man-made deposits
Organic Contaminants								
Atrizine	2015	0.11	<0.08	0:30	3	3	qdd	Runoff from herbicide on row crops
Simazine	2015	0.04	<0.05	0.25	4	4	ddd	Herbicide runoff
Total Organic Carbon					Treated Water Alkalinity	r Alkalinity	_	
Total Organic Carbon	2015	4.11	2.71	5.03	<60 mg/L as CaCO3	1s CaCO3	mdd	In distribution system—water additive used to control microbes
Turbidity		Highest Single	Lowest monthly %	Lowest monthly % of samples meeting limits	Turbidity limits	, limits	Unit of Measure	
Turbidity	2015	0	0.22	100%		0.3	NTU	Soil runoff
DESOTO								
Total Coliforms		Maximum Con- taminant Level	Total Coliform Max Contaminant	Highest # of	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Max Contaminant	Total # of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform	Violetion	
		Goal	7%	רטאנועה		Samples	VIOIBILI	
Total Coliforms Bacteria	2015	0	samples are positive	ო		0	z	Naturally present in the environment
Disinfectant		Average	Minimum	Maximum	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	
Total Chlorine Residual	2015	1.18	.60	2.6	4*	4*	mdd	No Violation—In distribution system—water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Unit of Measure	
Nitrate (as N)	2015	1	0.862—1.429	10	10	z	mdd	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as N)	2015	1	0.567—0.567	1	1	z	mdd	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By Products								
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)*	2015	16	1.5—31.8	No goal for the total	09	z	qdd	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	17	7.2—21	No goal for the total	80	z	qdd	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Action Level (AL)   90th Percentile**	* sites over AL	Violation	Unit of Measure	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead	07-10-2013	0	15	1.15	0	No	qdd	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	07-10-2013	1.3	1.3	0.284	0	No	mdd	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing sys

\*as annual average

\*\*\*Haloacetic Acids—five species

# SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS AND OTHER IMMUNE PROBLEMS

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants such as Cryptosporidium in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, those who have undergone organ transplants, those who are undergoing steroid treatment, and persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your health care providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: **1-800-426-4791** 

#### WATER LOSS AUDIT

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan-Dec 2015, our system lost an estimated 386,989,784 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit please call 972-230-5725.

	VIOL	ATIONS	
Violation Type—Chlorine	Violation Began	Violation End	Comments
Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR)	01/01/2015	03/31/2015	Although the chloramine sampling was completed daily, we failed to submit the quarterly report in the time frame allotted.

#### **LET'S BE WATER SMART!!**



- The amount of safe water could drop by 40% in 15 years if people do not change the way they use water.
- The United States uses nearly 346 million gallons of fresh water every day.
- 1 in 9 people worldwide do not have access to clean water.

### **Public Participation Opportunities**

Public participation opportunities are available during the Public Comment portion of the City Council meetings, held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. For more information about public participation, please call us at 972-274-CITY